

# The True Northerner.

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PAW PAW, VAN BUREN COUNTY, MICHIGAN, FRIDAY, APRIL 8, 1910.

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## PRACTICAL IDEAS ON POTATO CROP

Jason Woodman Tells Potato Growers How to Improve Crop.

### YEARS OF EXPERIMENTING

Has Produced Crop of 425 Bushels Per Acre. Fertilizing, Spraying and Seed Are Important.

For the year 1909 in the total production of potatoes New York stands first, Michigan second, Maine third and Wisconsin fourth. In yield per acre Maine stands first with an average for the state of 225 bushels, New York second with 120 bushels, Michigan third with 105 bushels and Wisconsin fourth with an average of 102 bushels. The 10 year average yield per acre in bushels is for Maine 171, Wisconsin 94, New York 85 and Michigan 84. That is to say, the average yield of potatoes in Maine is about twice as great as that of the crop in New York and Wisconsin and more than double the production per acre in Michigan. During these years the average farm price of the Maine crop has been \$80 per acre and of the Michigan crop \$32 per acre.

It is evident that the ordinary Michigan potato grower has not been making very much money from the crop, nor will he do so in the future unless he changes some of his present methods of doing business.

The average Michigan potato grower raises 1,000 bushels on every 12 acres of land. If, instead of planting 12 acres, he should plant five and make those five acres produce 1,000 bushels, he would not increase the total number of bushels placed on the market; he would, however, largely increase his net profit on the crop, a "consummation devoutly to be wished," not only by the farmer, but by the business and professional people who are dependent for their living upon the profit of the farmers' acres.

The three main reasons why Michigan farmers do not get a satisfactory yield are, first, they do not make the soil of their potato fields rich enough; second, they do not plant a sufficient quantity of the right kind of seed; third, they do not by thorough spraying eliminate the blight.

Over most of Michigan the last season was a favorable one for the production of a large crop, and yet we only raised an average of 105 bushels per acre.

In Paw Paw township there were four fields that averaged 377 bushels per acre. The largest yield was produced by Harry Lurkins, who on a field of nine acres and 79 square rods produced 425 bushels per acre. These fields were measured and the yield is the number of weighed bushels when marketed. Practically the same methods were followed in raising all of these crops. The plans used are the results of experiments carried on during a series of years.

In all cases the basis of each of these crops has been a field seeded to clover before it got poor. This clover was reinforced with a heavy coat of manure applied the year or the winter before the crop is planted.

We have found that the most profitable varieties of potatoes to grow for the general market are of the Rural type, preferably the Rural itself. All things considered, the best seed to plant is a whole potato from the size of an egg up to twice the egg size. If the seed potato is cut at all, it should only be cut once, split lengthwise through the seed end.

The seed end eyes are the strong eyes. If seed potatoes have been properly kept, a seed end backed by the whole potato in every hill means every hill a good hill.

With the Rural potato, if the whole tuber is planted, the eyes at or around the seed end will send out from one to four stalks, while the weaker eyes will remain dormant. Thus the whole of the plant food in the potato goes to nourish the growth from the strongest eyes. If seed potatoes are cut, the pieces containing the weak eyes will grow weak hills, and that means a smaller yield per acre. These statements are based on the results of experiments I have carried on for a series of years.

For five years I have planted a portion of my potato fields with uncut seed. Invariably the area planted with whole potatoes has outyielded the part of the field on which cut seed was used. I have tried experiments along this line by planting carefully measured plots. In every instance the uncut potato seed has proved to be the best. This last year for the first time I used only uncut seed and obtained the best crop I have ever grown.

Someone asks, if egg sized potatoes planted whole are used year after year, will not the size of the stock deteriorate and the potatoes run out. On the contrary, the yield has been increasing and the quality, if anything, has grown better. I raised this year 3,410 bushels of potatoes on eight acres and 113 square rods of ground, and from this crop I was able to grade out only 140 crates of

## MERRILL GETS BIG JUDGMENT

\$2,000 Against David Lelsenring for Alienation of Wife's Affections.

The case of James A. Merrill vs. David C. Lelsenring occupied the attention of the court all of last week. The jury brought in a verdict of \$2,000 for plaintiff.

Both parties to the suit reside in South Haven. The suit was for damages for the alleged alienations of Merrill's wife's affections. It has been tried twice before in this court. Each time the jury rendered a verdict in favor of plaintiff, but was reversed by the supreme court. It is probable that the case will again be appealed to the higher tribunal.

Attorneys T. J. Cavanaugh and H. T. Cook appeared for plaintiff and Harry Howard of Kalamazoo and W. W. Holmes of South Haven took care of defendant's interest.

Decrees have been entered in the following cases:

South Haven Park & Dock Co. vs. Chase H. Dickinson. Bill to quiet title.

Elen Conklin vs. Ellis Kennedy et al. Partition.

In the matter of the petition of the Auditor General for sale of tax lands.

Allen Ward vs. Prudence Ward. Divorce.

Thos. E. Spriggs vs. Almeron Beach et al. Bill to quiet title.

Wm. Kraiger vs. S. Pattison et al. Bill to remove cloud.

### THE SENIOR ENTERTAINMENT

Seniors of High School to Give Play Tonight at Opera House. Splendid Cast of Character.

The senior class of the Paw Paw high school will give an entertainment at the opera house this (Friday) evening. The program will be divided into three parts. The first will be a play, "Fun in a Photograph Gallery," the second, address on Woman's Suffrage by Dale Harrison, and the third a comedy drama in two acts entitled "Rock Allen, the Orphan."

The seniors have been practicing for several weeks for this entertainment and a splendid evening's fun is anticipated. The high school orchestra will furnish music.

Admission 20 cents, reserved seats 25 cents.

to be at its best must mature and mature in cool weather. Thorough and effective spraying is necessary to the production of a large crop and a good quality. A spraying machine to do good work must spray up against the lower side of the leaves and the stems of the plants, for there is where the blight spores during warm and muggy weather germinate and grow. The machines that only spray down on the tops of the vines will not properly control the blight and cannot be depended upon. The Bordeaux mixture I use contains 10 pounds of vitrol and 14 pounds of stone lime to the hundred gallons. I begin spraying when the tops are eight or ten inches high and spray once in about every eight days, spraying up until the vines begin to spread out on the ground; after that spraying down on top of the vines. If spraying is properly done, the potatoes that were as small as the bulk of two eggs.

Late potatoes should be planted in drills, the rows from 35 to 45 inches apart, the distance between rows depending on the weight of the soil, and the seed should be planted from 12 to 15 inches apart in the row. From 18 to 25 bushels of seed should be planted to the acre.

About eight days after planting, the field should be harrowed two or three times with a spring tooth drag, the teeth set from an inch and a half to two inches deep. This cultivation, given just before the potatoes come up, will destroy the life of every little weed and is the one most necessary cultivation.

The late potato crop in the south half of the lower peninsula is diminished on an average at least 25 per cent by blight, and the yield is often greatly shortened in the northern counties by the same cause. Moreover, the quality of the potatoes for food is injured. A potato that will not die from blight, nor will the potatoes rot. The tubers will continue to grow during the latter part of September and until the severe October frosts come. The quality of the stock will be materially improved and the quantity greatly increased.

If the Michigan farmer is to make money growing potatoes, he must keep live stock, make and save a liberal quantity of manure, plant only 30 or 40 per cent of the acreage he is now growing and manure every foot of it. A ton of good manure will bring from six to ten bushels of potatoes and is worth on the average at least three dollars and a half per ton on that crop, aside from the benefit it is to the land after the potatoes are removed. Plant enough of good seed, cultivate properly and spray thoroughly. If he does these things, he will grow no more bushels of potatoes than he raises now, but he will do a great deal less hard work and make a good deal more money.

JASON WOODMAN.

## SALOONS MUST STAY OUT OF VAN BUREN COUNTY

Magnificent Victory Won at the Polls Last Monday. Greater Majority for Local Option Than Was Returned in 1906.

### PAW PAW GIVES TWENTY-TWO MAJORITY ON THE RIGHT SIDE

Vote Was Heavy in the County. Probably the Largest Ever Polled. Political Issues Forgotten. Saloon or No Saloon the Only Question. Results, Known Early, Received With Joy.

The battle is over, the votes are counted and Van Buren county is still in the "dry" column. The prospects are that it is there to stay for all time to come. The citizens of the county have again had an opportunity to express themselves on the local option question, and their verdict of the past 20 years has been affirmed in the most positive manner.

This has been one of the most strenuous local option campaigns ever waged in Van Buren or any other county. Thousands of dollars have been used in an effort to force Van Buren county back into the "wet" column. Speakers have been sent into the county, and tons of "wet" literature have been spread broadcast over the country. But, notwithstanding all their efforts, the "dry" majority of last Monday was nearly 25 per cent higher than the vote in 1906.

The "wets" pinned their hope to what was alleged to be a general dissatisfaction over the recent law which prevents the sale of liquors from drug stores. There may be some such dissatisfaction, but the magnificent victory won at the polls last Monday would indicate that the sentiment against the saloon is increasing from year to year and that the people of Van Buren are determined that no saloon shall ever invade our fair county.

Election day opened cloudy and rainy. It was the opinion of many that it looked very much like a "wet" day, but the clouds gradually drifted away and proved to be exceedingly "dry" before the day closed. South Haven was really the only very "wet" spot in the county, and even there the second ward went "dry" by a few votes. Bangor was the banner township and gave a majority on the right side of 160. Paw Paw, judging from the votes in the past, was conceded to be close. Some of the "wets," however, stated on election day that the vote would be two "wets" to one "dry," while the local option forces were firm in their opinion that the township would give a majority of from 25 to 50 on the right side, and the actual majority of 22 showed how closely they had counted the pulse beats of the voters.

Political issues were practically lost sight of and the saloon question was the main issue. In every voting precinct the local option vote was counted first, and the returns were all in by 8 o'clock. When the result was announced, there was great rejoicing among the local option supporters, while the other side was sorely disappointed and crestfallen.

The following table will show in detail the vote in every precinct on the local option question for the year 1906 and also last Monday. A study of the same affords some interesting comparisons:

Townships	1906				1910			
	Dry	Wet	Dry Mj.	Wet Mj.	Dry	Wet	Dry Mj.	Wet Mj.
Almena	106	69	37	...	105	104	1	...
Antwerp	304	290	14	...	311	286	25	...
Arlington	203	127	78	...	209	123	86	...
Bangor	348	233	115	...	370	210	160	...
Bloomington	273	180	93	...	304	192	112	...
Columbia	207	147	60	...	157	182	...	25
Covert	250	159	71	...	166	109	57	...
Decatur	242	249	...	7	300	237	63	...
Geneva	196	165	31	...	197	158	39	...
Hamilton	97	91	6	...	109	116	...	7
Hartford	281	310	...	29	356	238	118	...
Keeler	114	105	9	...	128	124	4	...
Lawrence	257	191	66	...	263	170	93	...
Paw Paw	365	360	5	...	390	368	22	...
Pine Grove	195	175	20	...	219	156	63	...
Porter	123	107	16	...	140	84	56	...
So. Haven, 1st ward	107	201	...	94	95	196	...	101
" 2nd "	223	159	64	...	202	192	10	...
" 3rd "	135	140	...	5	88	129	...	41
" Township	161	101	60	...	115	143	...	30
Waverly	154	87	67	...	188	82	106	...
Total	4321	3646	812	135	4412	3601	1015	204

Dry majority in 1906—677. Dry majority in 1910—811.

Paw Paw polled one of the largest votes in the history of the township with the possible exception of the vote of the removal of the county seat. There were 775 votes polled, while last year the total was 645. Political issues were lost sight of. Neither the republican or democratic parties had a checker, nor did they send out any rigs. The votes on the local option question were carefully checked up, however, and rigs sent for the delinquents.

The township votes were badly split, however. There were 261 straight republican votes cast and 157 straight democrat. The inspectors did not get the votes all counted until nearly one o'clock Tuesday morning. The entire republican ticket was elected with the exception of highway commissioner. G. W. Lee, the democratic nominee, was elected by 43 majority. A. W. Showerman had the largest majority and was elected treasurer by 304 votes.

Several ladies came to the polls to vote and were disappointed when not permitted to do so. The opinion of the attorney general, as published in the Hartford Day Spring last week, held that women in the township cannot vote on the granting of electric franchises. They can do so in the village, but the constitution does not grant them that privilege in the township.

The regular business of the township was disposed of immediately following the dinner hour. The meeting was called to order by Supervisor Young, and the annual reports of the clerk and highway commissioner were adopted. On motion, the township voted to raise the sum of \$2,000, which will practically eliminate the floating indebtedness. It was also voted to spend a tax of 15 cents on every hundred dollars valuation for the highway improvement fund and a like amount for the highway repair fund.

Following is the complete vote on the township ticket and all other questions submitted:

PAW PAW.	
Supervisor—Merle H. Young	441
Leonard E. Shepard	305
Clerk—Bert E. Bennett	499
Claude F. Snow	234
Treasurer—Albert W. Showerman	520
Carl E. Buskirk	216
Hwy. Com'r—Clarence Smith	348
George W. Lee	391
Overseer Hays—John Minnick	493
Lanford L. Cole	236
Justice of Peace—Joseph E. Packer	480
Edson Woodman	242
Board Review—Milton H. Pugsley	506
David McCann	221
Constables—Henry W. McCabs	494
Charles D. Leach	505

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## ENUMERATORS FOR VAN BUREN COUNTY

List of Those Appointed to Take Census in County. Work Will Begin on 15th Day of April.

The census enumerators for Van Buren have all received notice of their appointment. The supervisor of the census marked the examination papers and sent the same to the census department at Washington with his recommendations. Such papers will remain with the department at Washington.

All enumerators will be expected to begin work on April 15 and will have 30 days in which to complete the work. Following is the list for the county:

Burt W. Tracy, Almena township.  
Glenn M. Brody, S. W. 1/4 of Antwerp township, including Lawton village.  
Ernest W. Cook, remaining 3/4 of Antwerp township.

John A. Lee, Arlington township, including part of Bangor village.

Maurice F. Russell, Bangor township, including part of Bangor village and the east 1/6 of the township.

Mrs. Mary Bell Burger, west 5-6 of Bangor township.

G. Pearl Edgerton, north 1/2 of Bloomingdale township, inc. Bloom's village.

John T. Bernius, south 1/2 of Blooming township inc. part of Gobleville vill.

Chas. H. Pepper, south 1/2 Columbia township, including Breedsville village.

Richard B. Fox, north 1/2 of Columbia township.

Mrs. Emma DeLano, north 1/4 of Covert township.

Leon M. Fisher, south 1/2 Covert twp.

Don Sutton, Decatur township.

Frank A. Harvey, Decatur village.

 Mrs. Grace K. Hodge, north 1/2 Geneva township. || Harris K. Hoag, S. 1/2 Geneva twp. |  |
Mrs. Fanny F. Hare, Hamilton twp.	
Harry J. Merriman, Hartford twp.	
Henry Spaulding, Hartford village.	
Roll F. Clover, Keeler township.	
Earl E. Spoor, Lawrence village and part of township.	
Glenn B. Robinson, part of Lawrence township.	
John G. Woodman, Paw Paw twp.	
Arthur Hutchins, Paw Paw village.	
James McDowell, Pine Grove twp. including part of Gobleville village.	
James C. McLain, Porter township.	
Harry M. Lockwood, ward 1, South Haven city.	
Miss Nellie Stewart, ward 2, South Haven city.	
Paul B. Lino, ward 3, S. H. city.	
Walter C. Curtis, So. H. township.	
Earl C. Davis, Waverly township.	

## BOXING CONTEST WAS PULLED OFF

At Allen Bros. Store in Glendale Saturday Night. Matches Interspersed with Temperance Lectures.

What was pronounced by those present as one of the finest exhibitions of the art of boxing ever witnessed in south western Michigan was pulled off at the Allen Brothers store in Glendale last Saturday evening before a large and enthusiastic audience of approximately 350 people.

The main bout was a six round "go" between "Young" Dougherty of Kalamazoo and Harry and Judd Wormuth and was a very "Classy" event. The audience pronounced it the best ever. It was preceded by six preliminaries. The matches were interspersed with music and temperance lectures by Rev. Thompson of Covey Hill church, "Hub" Harrington of Holland, Will Wormuth and others.

These boxing matches that have been pulled off by the Allen Brothers have not been of the usual kind, but have been attended and participated in by the best citizens and church members of Waverly township. From the majority of votes received for local option from Waverly the temperance lectures must have had their influence.

The good people of Waverly have placed their stamp of approval on the Allen Brothers and their style of entertainment.

### PERMANENT BERTH FOR WADE.

Wade Killefer played the short stop position last Saturday, when the Washington team played the Cornell college team at Washington. The Washington Times of last Sunday gave him a very complimentary mention and stated that he was a player of more than ordinary ability and would in all probability be given a permanent berth in that position.

### ENGAGED SPLENDID COMPANY.

A letter from Fred Kimball, who is now in New York city, asks to have "The True Northerner" sent to him at Toledo for the next twelve weeks. He states that he has engaged a splendid company for their Toledo engagement. It includes Fred Eric, who was leading man with Maude Adams for two years. Here's success to Mr. and Mrs. Kimball and their company.

## LAWTON MAN LOST BIG ROLL MONEY

Clarence McElheny Relieved of Roll Containing \$450.

### DETROIT MAN SUSPICIONED

James Holden Arrested and in Jail. Pal Got Away. Sat Behind McElheny From Kalamazoo to Lawton.

One James Holden, giving his address as Detroit, is in the county jail charged with the crime of larceny. He with a companion whose whereabouts are at present unknown are alleged to have taken a roll of bills amounting to \$450 from the person of Clarence McElheny while enroute from Kalamazoo to Lawton in a Michigan Central passenger coach.

McElheny went to Kalamazoo last Friday with \$450 in his possession. On the way home he took a bill from the roll with which to pay his fare, returning the currency to his hip pocket. Holden and his companion, who occupied a seat just behind McElheny, are accused of extracting in some manner the money from his pocket. He did not discover his loss until about an hour after reaching home and immediately suspicioned the two men who were seated behind him and who also alighted from the train at Lawton. He found the parties on the street and learned that they were about to depart on a west bound train. He endeavored to detain them, but the younger of the two got away and escaped.

Holden is a man about 65 years of age, and the officers are of the opinion that he is a bad crook. Fifty dollars in currency and two loaded revolvers were found on his person. The fact that one of the two broke away and ran when McElheny tried to apprehend them would strengthen the theory that they were the guilty parties.

## FORTY COUNTIES IN DRY COLUMN

Ten New Ones Added to List Monday. Wexford and Oakland Go Back to the Wet Column.

For many years Van Buren was the only dry spot on the map, but not so now. Out of the 83 counties in the state 40 are in the "dry" column, or will be after May 1.

Up until last Monday there were 30 counties in the local option column, and the returns of that day have added 12 to the list. The question was submitted in 36 counties last Monday. Twenty-six of this number were new counties and the other 10 a resubmission. Of the 26 new counties, 12 voted to abolish the saloons, while 14, eight of which were in the upper peninsula, voted "wet." Of the 10 which were resubmitted, eight remain in the "dry" column, while two, Wexford and Oakland, returned a "wet" majority.

This was the first invasion of the upper peninsula, and it still remains in the "wet" column. While the local option forces were sorry to lose the counties of Oakland and Wexford, it is a substantial victory in the state, and they are looking forward to state wide prohibition as the next move.

## CONGRATULATIONS

County Chairman Offers Congratulations on Great Victory Won at the Polls Last Monday.

I desire to congratulate the people of Van Buren county on the magnificent victory won at the polls in behalf of morality, of law and order, and of good citizenship. By an increased majority of almost 25 per cent over the vote of 1906, they have again set the seal of their approval on the local option law and have emphatically declared that the saloon shall not return to our fair county. It was a great fight, grandly won. Never before have the opponents of the law put forth so vigorous an effort for its overthrow. They seemed to think victory was within their grasp, but they mistook the temper of the people. To those who so ably assisted me in directing and managing the campaign, and especially to the local committeemen who spared no effort that would advance the cause, I tender my most sincere thanks. The result of the battle of ballots and a consciousness of good work well done will be their ample reward.

O. W. ROWLAND,  
County Chairman.